HIS MAJESTIES PROPOSITION

Sent to the two Houſes of *Parliament* at *Weſtminſter* Dec. 26. for His *Majeſties* repaire to *London*, to ſettle the preſent Diſtractions, and eſtabliſh a well grounded PEACE.

With the Anſwer to His *Majeſties* two former Meſſages of the 5. and 15. of Decemb. brought by Sir *Peter Killegrew*, Decemb. 27.

Together with His *Majeſties* laſt gratious Meſſage *Decemb.* 29. 1645.

Charles I King of England.

OXFORD,
Printed by *Leonard Lichfield*, Printer to *the Univerſity*. 1645.

His MAJESTIE's Propoſition Decemb. 16. for His Perſonall comming to Treat at *London*.

CHARLES R.

NOtwithſtanding the ſtrange and unexpected delayes (which can be precedented by no former times) to His Majeſties two former Meſſages, His Majeſty will lay aſide all Expoſtulations, as rather ſerving to looſe time, then to contribute any remedy to the evills, which (for the preſent) doe afflict this diſtracted Kingdome; Therefore without farther Preamble, His Majeſty thinkes it moſt neceſſary to ſend theſe Propoſitions this way, which He intended to doe by the Perſons mentioned in His former Meſſages, though He well knowes the great diſadvantage, which Overtures of this kind have, by the want of being accompanied by well inſtructed Meſſengers.

His Majeſty conceiving that the former Treaties have hitherto proved ineffectuall, chiefly for want of Power in thoſe Perſons that Treated, as likewiſe becauſe thoſe from whom their Power was derived (not

possibly having the particular informations of every severall debate) could not give so cleare a Judgement as was requisite in so important a businesse; If therefore His Majesty may have the engagement of the two Houses of Parliament at *Westminster*, the Commissioners of the Parliament of *Scotland*, the Major, Aldermen, Common-Councell, and *Militia* of *London*, of the chiefe Commanders in Sir *Thomas Fairfax's* Army, as also of those in the *Scots* Army, for His Majesties free and safe Comming to, and abode in *London* or *Westminster*, (with such of His Servants now attending Him, and their followers, not exceeding in all the number of 300) for the space of forty dayes, and after the said time for His free and safe repaire to any of His Garrisons of *Oxford*, *Worcester*, or *Newark*, (which His Majesty shall nominate at any time before His going from *London* or *Westminster*,) His Majesty propounds to have a Personall Treaty with the two Houses of Parliament at *Westminster*, and the Commissioners of the Parliament of *Scotland*, upon all matters which may conduce to the restoring of Peace and happinesse to these miserably distracted Kingdomes; And to beginne with the three Heads which were Treated on at *Vxbridge*. And for the better clearing of His Majesties earnest and sincere intentions of putting an end to these unnaturall Distractions, (knowing that point of security may prove the greatest obstacle to this most blessed Worke) His Majesty therefore declares, That He is willing to commit the great Trust of the *Militia* of this Kingdome, for such time, and with such Powers, as are exprest in the Paper delivered by His Majesties Commissioners at *Vxbridge*, the 6th of *Februa-*

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ry last, to these Persons following, *viz.* The Lord *Privy Seale*, the Duke of *Richmond*, the Marquesse of *Hertford*, the Marquesse of *Dorchester*, the Earle of *Dorset* Lord Chamberlaine, the Earle of *Northumberland*, the Earle of *Essex*, Earle of *Southampton*, Earle of *Pembroke*, Earle of *Salisbury*, Earle of *Manchester*, Earle of *Warwick*, Earle of *Denbigh*, Earle of *Chichester*, Lord *Say*, Lord *Seymour*, Lord *Lucas*, Lord *Lexington*, M. *Denzill Hollis*, M. *Pierrepont*, M. *Henry Bellasis*, M. *Richard Spencer*, Sir *Thomas Fairfax*, M. *John Ashburnham*, Sir *Gervas Clifton*, Sir *Henry Vane* junior, M. *Robert Wallop*, M. *Thomas Chichely*, M. *Oliver Cromwell*, and M. *Philip Skippon*, supposing that these are Persons against whom there can be no just exception: But if this doth not satisfy, then His Majesty offers to name the one halfe, and leave the other to the election of the two Houses of Parliament at *Westminster*, with the Powers and Limitations before mentioned.

Thus His Majesty calls God and the World to witnesse, of His sincere Intentions and reall Endeavours, for the composing and setling of these miserable Distractions, which He doubts not, but by the blessing of God, will soon be put to a happy Conclusion, if this His Majesties offer be accepted, otherwise He leaves all the World to judge, who are the continuers of this unnaturall Warre. And therefore He once more conjures you, by all the bonds of Duty you owe to God and your King, to have so great a Compassion on the bleeding and miserable Estate of your Country, That you joyne your most serious and hearty endeavours with His Majesty, to put a happy and speedy end to

theſe preſent Miſeries. *Given at the Court at* Oxford, *the* 26, *of* December, 1645.

For the Speaker of the Houſe of Peers pro tempore, To be communicated to the two Houſes of Parliament at Weſtminſter, *and the Commiſſioners of the Parliament of* Scotland.

The Meſſage brought by Sir *Peter Killegrew* Decemb. 27. in Anſwer to His MAJESTIES two former of the 5. and 15th of Decemb.

May it pleaſe Your MAJESTY,

THE *Lords and Commons Aſſembled in the Parliament of England at* Weſtminſter, *have received your Letters of the* 5th *and* 15th *of this inſtant* December, *and having, together with the Commiſſioners of the Parliament of* Scotland, *taken the ſame into their ſerious conſideration, doe humbly returne this Anſwer.*

They have in all their Actions manifeſted to Your Majeſty *and the World, their ſincere and earneſt deſires, that a ſafe and well grounded Peace might be ſetled in your three Kingdomes, and for the obtaining ſo great a bleſſing, ſhall ever pray to God, and uſe their utmoſt endeavours; and beſeech Your Majeſty to believe, that their not ſending a more ſpeedy Anſwer, hath not proceeded from any intention to retard the meanes of putting an end to theſe preſent calamities by a happy Peace, but hath been occaſioned by the Conſiderations and Debates neceſſary in a buſineſſe of ſo great importance, wherein both Kingdomes are ſo much concerned.*

As to Your Majeſties deſire of a ſafe Conduct for the comming hither of the Duke of Richmond, *the Earle of* Southampton, John Aſhburnham *and* Jeffery Palmer *Eſquires, with Propoſitions to be the foundation of a happy and well grounded Peace,*

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They finding that former Treaties have been made use of for other ends, under the pretence of Peace, and have proved delatory, and unsuccessfull, cannot give way to a safe Conduct according to Your Majesties desire; But both Houses of the Parliament of England, *having now under their Consideration Propositions and Bills for the setling of a safe and well grounded Peace, which are speedily to be communicated to the Commissioners of the Kingdome of* Scotland; *doe resolve after mutuall agreement of both Kingdoms to present them with all speed to Your Majesty.*

Grey of Warke Speaker of the House
Westminster the of Peeres *pro tempore.*
25. Decemb. 1645. *William Lenthall* Speaker of the
House of Commons.

His MAJESTIES Gracious Answer, sent by Sir *Peter Killigrew*, Decemb. 29.

CHARLES R.

ALthough the Message sent by Sir *Peter Killegrew*, may justly require an expostulatory Answer, yet His Majesty layes that aside, as not so proper for His present Endeavours; leaving all the World to judge, whether His Proposition for a personall Treaty, or the flat denyall of a safe Conduct for Persons to begin a Treaty, be greater signes of a reall Intention to Peace; and shall now only insist upon His former Message of the 26th of this *December*. That upon His repaire to *Westminster*, He doubts not but so to joyn His Endeavours with His two Houses of Parliament, as to give just satisfaction, not only concerning the busines of *Ireland*, but also for the setling of a way for the payment of the

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Publique Debts, as well to the *Scots*, and to the City of *London*, as others. And as already He hath shewne a faire way for the farling of the *Militia*, so He shall carefully Endeavour in all other particulars, that none shall have cause to Complaine for want of Security, whereby just Jealousies may arise to hinder the continuance of the desired Peace. And certainly this Proposition of a Personall Treaty could never have entred into His Majesties Thoughts, if He had not resolv'd to make apparent to all the World, that the Publique good and Peace of this Kingdome, is farre dearer to Him then the respect of any particular Interest. Wherefore none can oppose this Motion, without a manifest demonstration, that he particularly envyes His Majesty should be the chiefe Author in so blessed a Worke, besides the declaring Himselfe a direct Opposer of the happy Peace of these Nations. To conclude, whosoever will not be ashamed, that His faire and specious Protestations should be brought to a true and Publique Test; and those who have a reall sence, and doe truly commiserate the miseries of their bleeding Country: let them speedily and chearfully embrace His Majesties Proposition for His Personall Treaty at *Westminster*, which, by the blessing of God, will undoubtedly to these now distracted Kingdomes, restore the happinesse of a long wish'd for and lasting Peace. *Given at the Court at* Oxford, *the* 29th *day of* December, 1645.

For the Speaker of the House of Peers pro tempore, to be Communicated to the two Houses of Parliament at Westminster, *and the Commissioners of the Parliament of Scotland.*